



JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.
MAYOR

City of Charleston
South Carolina

BARBARA W. VAUGHN
DIRECTOR
PUBLIC INFORMATION

FOR RELEASE: June 10, 2009

CITY OF CHARLESTON CALLS FOR COMMUNITY RESPONSE FOR TRIDENT LITERACY ASSOCIATION

The Trident Literacy Association announced today that the downtown branch of this community group which offers one-on-one tutoring to help adults to read will be closed due to funding cuts and a decrease in local donations. A Summerville office will also close. This leaves five branches to serve the Tri county area.

Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. said, "For an adult who wants to learn to read, there are not a lot of options. The Trident Literacy Association is, for some, the last opportunity to gain the basic skill of reading which most of us take for granted. The 600 students served at the downtown campus are being left without options. To learn to read as an adult is to want better employment, to want to be a better parent or grandparent and to be able to have the self confidence that being able to read for yourself can offer. I am asking the community to step up and help keep this facility open. Our entire area will lose if this center closes. When an adult signs up for reading, they are putting a value on education which will transfer to their children and grandchildren. We need to come together to support those who want to learn to read."

Director Eileen Chepenik said that the downtown campus was opened 4 years ago and was the newest branch. She said that they had to make some tough decisions and did so with a cost analysis of each site.

For those who wish to donate, funds can be sent to:
Trident Literacy Association
5416B Rivers Avenue
North Charleston, SC 29406 or go to www.tridentlit.org.

FOR MORE INFO:

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